Drop Out Rate

3012. SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to a report compiled by Delhi University's Centre for Science Education and Communication on the sudden rise in drop out rate;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken on the report's recommendations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Promotion in IRCC

3013. SHRI CHITRASEN SINKU : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether information has been collected on Unstarred Question No. 2505 dated December, 9, 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the future of SC/ST employees if IRCC is wound up; and

(d) the reasons for not absorbing as (c) above in National Highway Authoristies of India under the same Ministry ?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) and (d) The posts in the National Highways Authority of India are filled up on the basis of deputation/ selection for which employees of the IRCC are also considered.

[Translation]

Facilities to Soldiers

3014. SHRI SOHAN VEER SINGH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the facilities and allowances being provided to soldiers after their recruitment and retirement are not adequate keeping in view their services;

(b) if so, whether the Government are contemplating to take steps for making improvement in it; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) to (c) The facilities and allowances being provided to soldiers after their recruitment are considered adequate. In addition to their normal pay and allowances, the soldiers are given certain facilities such as free ration, canteen facilities and housing, electricity and water at subsidised rates. They are also entitled to Field or Modified Field Area Allowance, Counter insurgency allowance and High Altitude Allowance in certain specified areas. Soldiers are also given liberalised leave as compared to the civilian employees.

2. After their retirement, Soldiers are entitled to the pensionary benefits. They are also being provided reservations/concessions for employment in Government jobs, financial assistance for setting up of self-employment ventures, medical treatment in Military Hospitals, canteen facilities, priority quota for admission of children in professional institutions and acommodation in Sainik Aramgrah/holiday homes.

3. However, conditions have changed in certain respects since the existing allowance and facilities were made effective in 1986. The Fifth Pay Commission has examined these aspects and has given its recommendations. The Government have also decided to accept most of the recommendations of the Fifth Pay Commission and have even improved upon the Commission's recommendations in some respects.

Oil Reserves

3015. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the States in the country where oil reserves are found and the quantum of oil therein; and

(b) the average quantum of oil extracted each month and the total quantum of oil extracted so far during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) The proven oil reserves are found in the following States and in quantities indicated below :-

(figs in MMT)

Name of the State	Reserves
Gujarat	102.82
Assam + Arunachal Pradesh	130.86
Nagaland	1.11
Andhra Pradesh	0.38
Tamil Nadu	2.94
Rajasthan	2.19
(Heavy Oil)	
West Coast Offshore	312.30
East Coast Offshore	21.93

(b) The current monthly rate of production of oil is about 0.253 MMT and 2.403 MMT in OIL and ONGC respectively and 0.147 MMT from the fields operated by Private/Joint Venture.

The production of crude oil during the last three years was as under :-

	Production of Oil
1994-95	32.24 MMT
1995-96	35.147 MMT
1996-97	32.88 MMT

[English]

Physical Education

3016. SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a meeting of the States Sports' Ministers was held recently in Delhi to discuss the ways and means to promote the sports an integrate physical education in schools and colleges; and

(b) if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken on the points discussed in the meeting ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A meeting of the states Sports Ministers was held in Delhi on 12.2.1997 in which the various issues relating to sports & youth were discussed. Besides other, integration of sports and physical education in the educational curriculam was also come up for the discussion.

It may be mentioned that the Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) has recommended to have sports and physical education as a compulsory subject in schools and colleges. The Central Govt. have accordingly advised all the State/UT Govt. to implement the recommendations of CABE.

[Translation]

Irrigation Projects in Bihar

3017. SHRI MAHABIR LAL BISHVAKARMA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of incompete irrigation projects in Chhota Nagpur of Bihar;

(b) the details thereof and the expenditure incurred thereon;

(c) the time by which these projects are likely to be completed; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) and (b) A Statement is attached.

(c) and (d) The completion of projects will depend upon the priority attached to it by the State Government.

Statement

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Expenditure upto March, 1996
1	2	3
I.	MAJOR ONGOING PROJECTS	
1.	North Koel Reservior*	399.44
2.	Subernarekha*	653.83
3.	Tilaiya Diversion*	19.91
4.	Auranga Reservoir	19.59
5.	Punasi Reservoir*	40.32
6.	Gandak Ph. II*	69.81
II.	MEDIUM ONGOING PROJECTS	
1.	Batane	29.75
2.	Bhairira	13.89
3.	Basuki*	0.16
4.	Dhansinghtoli*	13.48
5.	Gunani	26.85